



AIA Annual Engineering Key Contacts Meeting

Brief Update on Systems Engineering Revitalization

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Bob Skalamera

Deputy Director, Systems and Software Engineering
(Enterprise Development)

Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (A&T)



Topics

➤ What's happening in:

- Policy
- Guidance
- Education & Training

➤ What we're finding on programs

- Top 10 emerging issues from Program Support Reviews
- Trends from System Engineering Plan (SEP) reviews



New SE Policy in Draft DoDI 5000.2

- § 3.5.5. SE “shall be considered” during CR and TD.
- § 3.7.7. “System Design [phase of SDD] shall include the establishment of the functional, allocated, and product baselines for all configuration items.”
- § 3.7.8. Proceeding beyond the CDR. “The system-level CDR provides an opportunity for mid-phase assessment of design maturity as evidenced by measures such as successful completion of subsystem CDR; the percentage of hardware and software product build-to specifications and drawings completed and under configuration control.”
- § 3.7.9. System Demonstration. “The program shall enter System Demonstration when the program has successfully completed the system-level CDR and established a product baseline.”
- § 3.10.5. Program Support Reviews. PSRs mandated for all MDAPs and “. . . shall be conducted prior to each milestone event, before approval of the SDD acquisition strategy, and at other times as directed by the USD(AT&L).”
- Enclosure 3. Table E3.T2: SEP is mandated at milestones A, B, and C.
- Enclosure 12. Systems Engineering. Includes new policy on CM, DM, and ESOH and previously approved SE and related policies.



Guidance

- What's available:

- Systems Engineering Plan (SEP) Preparation Guide
- Risk Management Guide for DoD Acquisition
- DoD Guide for Achieving Reliability, Availability, and Maintainability
- Integrated Master Plan/Integrated Master Schedule (IMP/IMS) Guide
- Guide to Integrating SE into DoD Acquisition Contracts
- Understanding and Leveraging a Supplier's CMMI Efforts: A Guidebook for Acquirers ([new](#))

- What's coming:

- Systems of Systems SE Guide
- Update to SEP Preparation Guide
- Update to Defense Acquisition Guidebook
 - [Chapter 4 -- Systems Engineering](#)
 - [Chapter 9 -- Test and Evaluation](#)



SEP Prep Guide

- ED released a draft SEP Prep Guide on April 27 for review by the SE Forum members and other SE personnel. *Comments are due to ED by June 8.*
- Adjudication of SEP Prep Guide comments after June 8
- Release of final SEP Prep Guide by June 30.



SEP Prep Guide

- New guide includes sections by program phase:
 - Technology Development
 - System Development & Demonstration
 - Production & Deployment and Operations & Support

- Each section is based on technical planning focus areas for that phase
 - Program Requirements
 - Technical Staffing
 - Technical Baseline Management
 - Technical Review Planning
 - Integration with Overall Management of the Program



DAG Chapter 4 Update

- ED released DAG Chapter 4 on April 27 for update by cognizant section owners. *Comments are due to ED by June 1*
- Adjudication of Chapter 4 updates after June 1
- Release of updated Chapter 4 to DAPWG for their review NLT Sep
 - Tied to the release of new policy in DoDI 5000.2



Education & Training

➤ What's new

- On-line Continuous Learning Modules (CLMs): Reliability and Maintainability; Technical Reviews; Technical Planning; System Safety; Modeling and Simulation
- On-line introductory course SYS 101
- On-line intermediate course SYS 202
- Intermediate classroom course SYS 203
- Advanced classroom course SYS 302
- New "SPRDE/Program Systems Engineer" track

➤ What's coming

- Update to Risk Management CLM (and PMT 250 module)
- New CLMs for MOSA (Open Systems), M&S in T&E, and Trade Studies



Top 10 Emerging Systemic Issues

1. Management
 - IPT roles, responsibilities, authority, poor communication
 - Inexperienced staff, lack of technical expertise
2. Requirements
 - Creep/stability
 - Tangible, measurable, testable
3. Systems Engineering
 - Lack of a rigorous approach, technical expertise
 - Process compliance
4. Staffing
 - Inadequate Government program office staff
5. Reliability
 - Ambitious growth curves, unrealistic requirements
 - Inadequate “test time” for statistical calculations
6. Acquisition Strategy
 - Competing budget priorities, schedule-driven
 - Contracting issues, poor technical assumptions
7. Schedule
 - Realism, compression
8. Test Planning
 - Breadth, depth, resources
9. Software
 - Architecture, design/development discipline
 - Staffing/skill levels, organizational competency (process)
10. Maintainability/Logistics
 - Sustainment costs not fully considered (short-sighted)
 - Supportability considerations traded

Major contributors to poor program performance



Systems Engineering Plan Trends

➤ What's working:

- Programs beginning to establish SE WIPTs early in the life cycle to develop and document their technical planning
- Increased Program Executive Office level Lead/Chief Systems Engineers involvement in SEP development
- Movement to event-driven versus schedule-driven programs
 - More focus entry and exit criteria for technical reviews

➤ What needs work:

- Firming up technical planning prior to RFP release
- Proposed processes for a program not always tailored to fit program
 - Often appear to be copied from a manual or guide.
- SEP author is someone in program office (contractor or junior person) who is not familiar with the technical strategy.
- SEPs need to be consistent with key program documents